

# The Sun

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## Reject the Idea!

It is a momentous circumstance that there should be discussion in Washington of the possibility that the Supreme Court of the United States may withhold its decision in the Northern Securities case until next fall, after the election, for the sake of the political convenience of Mr. Roosevelt.

A momentous circumstance, we say, for the mere consideration of the possibility of such a proceeding is an insult both to the Court and to the President. It implies a cynical view of modern methods of political promotion which is in itself a striking and alarming phenomenon.

Indeed, the President, because the idea involves the supposition that he is willing and ready to profit personally by the postponement of the judicial determination of an issue of his own making, and to profit thereby even at the price of continued uncertainty and unsettledness and incalculable loss to the business of the country.

Insulting to the Judges who sit in an exalted tribunal which has never yet made itself the servant of an individual's political fortunes; which has never yet become part of the machinery of a political campaign, which has never, as the nation is proud to believe, departed consciously from that high conception of its own independence which was expressed with such force and dignity in Mr. Justice BRADLEY's opinion in the Baltimore and Ohio case, when the Court said:

"We are bound to sustain the constitutional powers and prerogatives of the States, as well as those of the United States, whenever they are brought before us for adjudication, no matter what may be the consequences."

## Canada as a Manufacturer.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association recently indulged itself in an elaborate banquet at the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec. There is full reason for a belief that the organization was abundantly able to foot the bill for the spread, and have plenty of money left for another one if it wants to repeat the experience.

Naturally, the speakers at the banquet turned loose a good deal of high-flown talk about the greatness of Canada, its illimitable resources, its important place in the world of to-day. It is evident that an American guest might easily have thought himself in his own country, listening to speeches from his own countrymen. But a little humbly talker, who was one of our neighbors across the northern line, was rapidly acquiring a perfect right to shout as loudly about their commercial achievements as some of us do about ours.

This is made evident by an interesting little illustration used at the dinner by the Hon. Mr. FITZPATRICK, the Canadian Minister of Justice. He stated that in the last seven years Great Britain's exports of manufactured articles had increased 26 per cent., those of the United States 47 per cent., and those of Canada 107 per cent. He added that over \$480,000,000 were now invested in manufacturing industries in the Dominion.

More power to the Canadian elbow, and more trade to Canada's wide awake people! May they add ciphers to the right hand end of their figures every year!

## The Future Status of Korea and Manchuria.

There is, on the face of things, a striking difference in the positions taken respectively by Japan and Russia with reference to the ultimate fate of Korea and Manchuria. The difference, when clearly recognized, exercises a material influence on the drift of American sympathies.

How Japan's triumph in the war would affect Korea and Manchuria we know, so far as knowledge may be based on treaty stipulations and definite assurances from the Tokio Government. That Japan would deem herself constrained to make the Korean peninsula one of the scenes of military operations was foreseen by our State Department, which accordingly, although a treaty, now relatively old, bound us to use our good offices on behalf of Korea should the latter's independence be threatened—refrained from requesting the belligerents to respect the neutrality of the Hermit Kingdom, or even to agree that, now and hereafter, its sovereignty and territorial integrity should be maintained intact. Such a request would have seemed no less unreasonable than a demand that the neutrality of China's three Manchurian provinces should be scrupulously respected by both combatants. Such a double exaction would have been tantamount to a declaration that hostile operations must be conducted exclusively on the ocean, or on territory which is universally acknowledged to be either Russian or Japanese.

As well might our Secretary of State have undertaken to forbid the war, the primary aim of which, so far as Japan is concerned, was to keep the Russians out of Korea and to expel them from Manchuria. All this was so obvious to Mr. HAY that he not only forbore to say a word about Korea in his note to the Powers, but, in his reference to China, employed the term "administrative entity," which might or might not be held to cover territory not actually controlled by Chinese authorities. Both belligerents quickly defined the term by declining to recognize the application of it to that part of Manchuria occupied by Russian forces, or to any adjacent section likely to become a theatre of conflict.

Neither expressly nor by implication did the replies of the belligerents to Mr. HAY's note contain a stipulation to regard either Korea or Manchuria as at present neutral territory, or hereafter to recognize the independence of the Hermit Kingdom and to treat the three Manchurian provinces as forming an inseparable part of the Chinese Empire. So far as the status resulting from the replies to our note was concerned, both Korea and Manchuria might have become the prizes of the victor in the war. With respect to the future of those regions, however, there has since been disclosed an important difference in the attitude of the two belligerents. Russia has made no promise that, in the event of her success, she will continue to recognize in Korea an independent kingdom, much less that she will evacuate Manchuria and permit the reassertion therein of Chinese sovereignty. In the absence of any disclaimer on her part, it is reasonable to suppose that, if triumphant over Japan, she would not only maintain an inextinguishable grasp upon Manchuria, but would occupy Korea.

Essentially different is the position that has been taken by the Tokio Government. By a treaty with the Korean sovereign, the text of which has been published, the Mikado has voluntarily pledged himself to maintain intact after the war the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Hermit Kingdom. No doubt he would exercise a species of protectorate at Seoul, similar to that exercised by England at Cairo, which, however, would not be incompatible with the ostensible maintenance of Korean independence and with the faithful observance of all commercial treaties previously concluded between Korea and foreign Powers.

It is further to be borne in mind that the Tokio Government has solemnly proclaimed its intention not to annex any part of Manchuria, but, if victorious in the struggle against Russia, to replace the whole of it under Chinese sovereignty. Throughout that region, therefore, in the event of Japanese success, our commercial treaty with China would become immediately operative.

We are certain, then, so far as the most solemn assurances can give certainty, that the Open Door will be maintained if the Russians are kept out of Korea and expelled from Manchuria. What would happen if Russia should be victorious we cannot positively say, for the St. Petersburg Government has made no definite pronouncement on the subject. It must be acknowledged that experience justifies a pessimistic forecast. That is why so many intelligent Americans are inclined to think that in the present contest their national interests would be best subserved by the triumph of the Island Empire.

## A Fashionable Woman's Club.

The report that women prominent in the society of fashion in New York have bought in Madison avenue a site for the erection of an extensive woman's athletic club is interesting and suggestive. According to the accounts, the new institution, besides furnishing opportunity for gymnastic exercises, is to be very similar in its character to a man's club, but rather representative of the more serious feminine ambitions—political, religious, reformatory or for intellectual improvement. The time when only gibes were thrown at such organizations of women has passed away. They are becoming more numerous steadily, and now the project for building a distinctively woman's athletic club, representative of the selectest circle of New York fashion, shows how futile has been the flippancy.

Such an extension of the club movement to the women of fashionable society was inevitable. No other women, except those who have made themselves conspicuous by battling for the political equality of women with men, are now so prominent as public characters as the leaders and foremost frequenters of the society of fashion. The names of the women of social distinction in New York are as familiar to the whole American public as those of men of the highest political and professional distinction, and from one end of the Union to the other their pictured faces are made public property. Similarly, women of fashionable prominence in other cities, in the East, the West and the South, are made known here. Their movements are chronicled with particularity in newspapers in all parts of the country. The "fashionable intelligence" of our republican society is like the "court circular" of aristocratic society, except that it is of larger and wider range.

Not many years ago a newspaper report of a fashionable entertainment, with the names and some references to costumes of the women present, provoked angry resentment as a coarse interference with privacy and an intolerable invasion of the seclusion in which feminine modesty should always be guarded. Such a public exposure might be deserved by "woman's rights" women, the "unsexed" monsters, for it was invited by them, but it was reprobated as an offensive intrusion in the case of women who kept within their proper "sphere." Now, not even the most celebrated and discussed woman suffragist of the public platforms is more of a public personage than are the leaders of fashionable society and their chief women satellites.

When the first woman's rights convention in this country was held in 1848 it was treated as an outrageously unbecomingly demonstration, and for many years thereafter such "hen" organizations were always associated with only the "short hair" variety of the sex, and reports of their proceedings were usually comical in tone. Even yet the great mass of feminine sentiment seems to be hostile or indifferent to the movement of the women who are clamoring for woman suffrage; but otherwise women have emerged from their old-time seclusion to so great an extent that we hear no more talk about the necessity of a woman keeping out of the light of publicity in order not to "unsex" herself, and the leaders in this new movement are in the most exclusive circle of fashion. Even if they have not acquired and do not want political equality with men, they are not averse to equality in publicity, but rather have sought it. In outdoor sports and contests they have entered into comradeship and competition with men and have asked no quarter on the grounds of their sex. Women champions of games are not less celebrated than men experts. Women preside at public meetings of discussion with admirable parliamentary skill. They are frightened no longer by the glare of publicity. Are they preparing to assert themselves in the field of politics? The woman suffragists look on with happy approbation, in the confidence that there can be no other result of this widespread feminine disposition to mingle in public affairs. The accession of leaders of the gay world to the movement for the organization of feminine clubs will seem to them to be of high significance. The world of society, which once had furnished the only sphere in which feminine ambition could gratify itself, is no longer broad enough for it, and women are now getting schooled to endure the light and share the responsibilities of the arena in which are fought out the contests of politics.

The projected woman's club in Madison avenue, it may be assumed, will set the example for similar organizations in many parts of the Union. It may therefore be called as genuinely a woman's rights demonstration as was the much reprobated and ridiculed demonstration at Seneca Falls in 1848 by ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, LUCRETIA MOTT and the few other women there assembled. It will be the formal approval by fashion of a movement begun amid the derision of both men and women.

## A Pima Constitution.

The Indians of the Pima stock live in southwestern Arizona and the adjacent regions of Sonora. The Pima tribe is on two reservations in the valleys of the Gila and Salt rivers. Artistic basket makers and talented potters, the Pimas live, or try to live, by farming. Of late years they have had evil days. Those about the Gila agency could no longer irrigate their farms, as the white settlers higher up on the river have ditched out the water and cut off the Indians' supply. In the San Juan reservation, there were other troubles. The old chief, rich in cattle and horses, is penurious. Some of the young men, educated in Eastern schools, bubbled with new ideas. In the fall of 1901 a new system of canals was completed. The young men resolved to elect a new chief and build a Constitution. In the *Journal of American Folk-Lore* the late FRANK RUSSELL of Cambridge gives a copy of this document and describes its origin and fate.

Who were the Pima "Fathers"? SOLOMON JONES, interpreter, proposed that a Constitution should be written. EARL A. WHITMAN, disciplinarian at the boarding school, wrote the Constitution. Another employee of the school cut down the draft one-half, but didn't alter the language. Modelled after the Constitution of the United States, the Pima Constitution is the work of young English-speaking Pimas. Naturally, it is not always sufficiently exact in language. The arrangement might be improved, and by-laws and Constitution are fused and confounded. Here are the preamble and first article, or first two sections:

"We, the Indians of the San Juan Reservation, in order to promote the general welfare of our Indians, do ordain and establish this Constitution and by-laws for the government of the San Juan Reservation."

"1. The executive power of the Reservation shall be vested in a Chief, who shall be elected by the people; such election shall be subject to approval by the United States Indian Agent at Sacaton, Ariz. He shall serve four years, unless he for misbehavior be impeached by the Council and removed from office, the same to be approved by the United States Indian Agent."

"2. The legislative power of the said Reservation shall be vested in the Chief and the Council, the latter to consist of eight Councilmen, two Assistant Chiefs and the Head Chief."

"3. The said officers shall be of good repute and have the qualifications of voters. One-fourth of the said Council shall be elected every year by the people."

Mr. RUSSELL tells us that four is the magic number of the Pimas, which thus happily corresponds with the term of the President and the Head Chief. The term of the Assistant Chiefs is for two years. They communicate to their people the orders of the Head Chief and distribute the rations issued by the Indian Agent. They also supervise the canal and dam work of the farmers on the reservation. These Minute Men, the manner of whose election is not provided for, are called "Undermen" in another article and are subject to the Canal President, the manner of whose election is equally unprovided for.

The Council discusses and decides "all general questions" and tries suits referred to it by the Head Chief. Road improvement is among the Pimas' duties, but the longest article in their Constitution relates to the duties of the Road Master and of the community in regard to the roads. A curious provision requires "every male resident on or off the reservation who uses a road in it to work on the roads by person or substitute. Trespass by livestock, fencing and ditch or dam labor are dealt with fully. It costs one dollar to violate the Con-

stitution. "The leader" of persons who "shall in any way prevent the free enactment of these rules and regulations" shall pay \$2.50 for his first, \$5 for his second offence. The final article returns to the duties of the Head Chief and provides that a bill shall become a law when signed by the Indian Agent.

The Indian Agent approved the Constitution and called a meeting of "the Pimas interested." Some fifty appeared and adopted the Constitution almost unanimously. JOHN LEWIS was chosen Head Chief. Everything seemed to smile upon constitutional government in the San Juan Commonwealth. Alas! There was "jealousy among the ex-Carlsbergs." The ex-chief, as a big cattle owner, objected to the penalties for trespass, although the Constitution says nothing of a Treasurer to receive them. Henchmen of this old boss protested. The Agent moved to reconsider himself and veto the Constitution. But all is not lost. The Constitutionalist party still holds meetings, though the man who wrote the Constitution is too proud to go to them. "The opposition party maintains a lobby at the agency." Evidently the Pimas are ripe for a Constitution. It may strike the reader that the Assistant Chiefs, with the rations and the canal to boss, might be the real power.

## Springfield's Mistake.

Had the guardians of the public peace in the city of Springfield, Ohio, done their duty on Monday night, that community would not have been at the mercy of a mob held in check only by the guns of the militia. On Monday evening a lynch party took a prisoner from the jail, and hanged him.

Had a few of the members of that lynch party been shot to death by the jail warden and his deputies, no mob would have been in the city's streets yesterday. The Sheriff and the warden explain that they could not have protected their prisoner without "causing the death of some one." With their city threatened by flames, the streets unsafe for the citizens to pass through, and the soldiers in command of the community, they must have realized the futility of such a plea.

Incidentally, there is one community in Ohio where any criticism of Governor VARDAMAN of Mississippi, the law-defending Chief Executive, will come in the future with very bad grace.

To Judge WOFFORD of the Kansas City Criminal Court, the constitutional provision that an accused person shall not be compelled to testify against himself is a well-sounding phrase. He has refused to allow "confessions" extorted from prisoners by promises or threats to be introduced in evidence against them. The police "sweet box" is not unknown outside of Kansas City. There would be a substantial gain for justice if every Judge in the land obeyed the spirit of the Constitution intelligently and as faithfully as Judge WOFFORD does.

The publishers of copyrighted messages and papers, in or out of Congress, may profitably study the example set by FLOYD SHOCK of Austin, Tex. Texas has recently revised its town, local option, prairie dog and election laws, and a citizen of that State, FLOYD SHOCK, has undertaken the task of preparing for publication these and other laws and is retelling the same at the price of 25 cents a copy. The dedication of the work by Mr. SHOCK is in this model form:

Copyright, 1904  
By FLOYD SHOCK.  
I do not claim a copyright of the laws as taken from the statutes of the State, but on the compilation and arrangement, which are my own work.

Accompanying the laws of Texas is a preface of Mr. SHOCK's in which he says: "In its preparation, we have availed ourselves of the kind criticism and suggestions of the author and his friends. No gentler influence on the subject, the oft expressed uncertainty of its intent, all possible care has been taken to secure the greatest accuracy."

The Texas method of "copyrighting" public papers and documents, as adopted by FLOYD SHOCK, has at least the merit of candor, and the price charged for the compilation is not extravagant.

The passing of the Hon. JIMMIE WEXFORD is marked by the disbanding of his East Side Reform Club. No gentler influence ever contributed to the gayety of municipal politics. His dainty management of the Hon. SETH LOW'S Pushcart Annex, his thoughtful contributions to uplift the proletariat and his abiding willingness to accept the emoluments of office for the benefit of the public combined to emphasize his dissociation from the common herd of rude, rough men. He will be missed.

Representative MORRELL of Pennsylvania has proposed in Congress that a collection of early American prints and engravings be made by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition for exhibition at St. Louis this summer, to illustrate the origin and development of the art of engraving in this country. Mr. MORRELL mentions the portrait of RICHARD MATHIAS, by JOHN FOSTER, the first Boston printer, executed in 1680, as the earliest known example of American engraving. Mr. MORRELL's plan is to have the exhibition borrow the original prints whenever their owners will lend them, or, failing to do this, to photograph them.

The Giants Against the Highlanders.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I saw in THE SUN a few days ago that Mr. Farrell of the New York American League team had challenged Mr. Brush of the Nationals to have their teams play a series of three games before the regular season, the proceeds to be given to some local charity. Later I saw that Mr. Brush had declined.

It is a pity that the sportsman's follower of the National League, as far back as the days of old Jim Mullie, but I must say that in this case Mr. Brush has not acted in the manner of a game sportsman, and it is to be hoped that he may yet change his mind, and allow the Giants (for Giants they are) to take a few falls out of the Greater New Yorks. MANKATÉ, MARCH 8. SETHMOOR STRIKER.

For New York's Water Supply.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Now that the Smith bill providing the city from obtaining a water supply from streams in Dutchess county has passed the Assembly, and the city will not be able to obtain additional water from that source, permit me to suggest to the city authorities to send a letter to your journal in the early part of the winter, which is briefly this: Sink numerous artesian wells of large calibre in the present Croton water shed; connect them in "batteries," and pump into the present aqueducts. A large supply of pure water can thus be obtained at a trifling cost. J. B. JAMES.

On the Quiver.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—While trying to get at the cause of the war, I have been asked a question. "Was the man drunk?" The witness replied, "Well, I should call it on the quiver." Perhaps this may go into the lexicon. NEWS, N. Y., March 8. E. R. G.

## PLATT—ODELL.

Republican machinists all over the State are confused by the condition of affairs which confronts them. They are bewildered by the swift changes of the last few months. A trip through the State has elicited incontestable evidence that the party is torn by turbulent distractions. In thirty-seven counties there are factional quarrels of pronounced bitterness.

Gov. Odell's overthrow of his old friend and political career, Senator Thomas C. Platt, has provoked unlimited comment. Gov. Odell's course and the support given to him by certain Republicans have also produced statements to the effect that Gov. Odell is not at times quite sure of his own permanent position. The new Republican leader of the State, there is indubitable evidence to warrant the assertion that at the seasonable design to destroy politically his creator, Senator Platt, will turn upon Gov. Odell. Republican factional chaos will follow, until, in the words of one of Gov. Odell's closest adherents, "We can evolve a leader like a Platt who kept his word inviolate with his lieutenants but who for factional reasons and because of the sentiment in my district I have fought for many years."

The criticism of Republican machinists now in Governor Odell's camp was asserted and summed up in these few words: "He is a subterranean snake and while he is grasping your hand or drinking your health he is plotting how he can politically stab you." In every county in the State Republican machinists gave similar testimony.

Senator Platt's friends have divulged an important bit of information. They say that Senator Platt, advised two years ago to relinquish the duties of Republican State leader, this advice was given to Senator Platt, they say, on the ground that Gov. Odell from the first hour he set in the executive chair at Albany had determined to become State leader; that Senator Platt was in feeble health, naturally and reproduced, and that as long as Gov. Odell was bent on appointing him Senator Platt would retire with honor after his long career, and could then at the same time protect his friends in the State. Senator Platt, it was averred by those who say they are thoroughly familiar with the subject, declined to listen to the suggestion that he should retire advanced to him by those who could have none but the most affectionate interest in his personal and political welfare. He admitted that perhaps he wasn't as robust physically as he had been; but said that his "head piece" was all right and in sound working order, and that his devotion to the Republican party would not permit him to retire, at least not until he had accomplished his work in the national campaign of 1904.

Senator Platt's personal and dear to Senator Platt and political friends who have stood at his back on a hundred battlefields, fighting for the principles and policies of the Republican party, have recently declared: "We really never believed Gov. Odell would strike down Senator Platt. We were inclined to believe the reports that he would be to the contrary, and we know that Senator Platt himself did not believe them." Then these Republicans have again declared for the faith that was in them that Gov. Odell would never strike down Senator Platt. They spoke it thus:

"When Senator Platt was advised two years ago to relinquish the reins of leadership, he declined to do so on the ground that he wanted to put in effective work for the party in the Presidential contest of 1904. He believed that the impending battle for the Presidency would be his last active participation in a Presidential struggle. Besides, he had sentimental reasons for not wishing to retire at that time. He is not one to speak of such matters, but we all know, as all Republicans of prominence in other States know, that Gov. Odell owes everything to Senator Platt. Senator Platt has been a pillar of support and there is no cause for concealing now that Gov. Odell has not neglected the opportunities which his political prominence gave him to make money. So Senator Platt believed in Gov. Odell, and he wouldn't retire as State leader, as he was advised to do by those who enjoyed the most intimate relations with him."

"Senator Platt knew that he had made Gov. Odell, and if Senator Platt in his declining years were somewhat feeble and could not be depended upon for an instant that Gov. Odell would push him over the political precipice. On the contrary, Senator Platt was of the opinion that Gov. Odell, looked upon as a son by him, would support him and sustain him and encourage him in the day of enfeeblement which perforce would come after a lifetime of strenuous political conflict with the adversaries of the Republican party. Senator Platt had been in every Presidential fight of his party since 1856, and he believed that Gov. Odell, young and robust, would stand firmly beside him and be his prop, and not send him in humiliation to his political and physical grave. But Gov. Odell hadn't the stuff in him Senator Platt believed he had. Gov. Odell hadn't the fine grain of political honor which has been one of Senator Platt's chief characteristics."

"It is true Senator Platt fought Hayes, and Garfield, and Harrison and McKinley's first nomination, but he fought in the open, like a man. He believed he was right, opposing the nominations of Adams, Breckinridge, and when defeated in his opposition to their nomination he fought equally hard for their election. Senator Platt has always reserved to himself the right of sturdy American manhood to express his opinions, and he has done this in some of the cleverest political English printed in our day and generation."

Gov. Odell, it is now openly admitted by his adherents, from the first has plotted Senator Platt's overthrow and political humiliation. He brought to his assistance Senator Edgar T. Brackett, Representative Lucius N. Littauer, Louis F. Payn and several others of less importance. In our opinion, Mr. Brackett, Mr. Littauer and Mr. Payn had furthered Senator Brackett, enjoying the distinction of his privilege as a Republican, had also an equally good right to vote for Elihu Root for United States Senator and not Senator Platt. Mr. Brackett, Mr. Littauer and Mr. Payn have had political grievances against Senator Platt, and it was their privilege to oppose Senator Platt in every reasonable manner. Senator Platt, though, expected the political antagonism of these three men and their friends and he did not fear it. With Gov. Odell it was different. Gov. Odell had received nothing at Senator Platt's hands save political advancement, personal exaltation and the tenderest respect only from a man of naturally gentle traits can display to a younger man whom he admires and trusts."

"The closer Gov. Odell got to Senator Platt the deeper Gov. Odell drove the political knife into him. Senator Platt has never spoken an unkind word of Gov. Odell. His only comment that could be construed as a criticism of the Governor was uttered in the heat of irritation in December last. Gov. Odell had returned from his visit to President Roosevelt and had issued a pronouncement at the Republican Club in New York City declaring himself to be the active leader of the Republican party in the State. When Senator Platt read Gov. Odell's authorized interview on this subject he remarked: 'That is the most brutal statement I have ever read.' Senator Platt next authorized the announcement: 'I shall be leader of the Republican party in the State until I am dead.' But by that time Gov. Odell had undermined Senator Platt in the New York county committee and in the Republican State committee."

Republicans, speaking of the situation in the State, said also that there was now no cause for dissembling further and that many unhappy conditions must be confronted. Some explanation of Gov. Odell's attitude toward Col. George W. Dunn, chairman of the Republican State committee, was also vouchsafed. It appears upon trustworthy testimony that Gov. Odell has liked neither Col. Dunn's robust attitude toward him nor his plain speech to him. For instance: Several days after Gov. Odell was re-elected, in 1901, only by the hardest work of Senator Platt and Col. Dunn, Gov. Odell came to New York City and told Senator Platt that he would never forget to his dying hour Senator Platt's substantial work in the campaign and that it was this work which brought about his reelection. Gov. Odell believed it necessary to repeat to Col. Dunn and others the assurance that he would be as good as Senator Platt, Col. Dunn, as chairman of the State committee and keenly alive to what had been going on at Albany during Gov. Odell's first term, turned to the Governor and in blunt, soldier-like tones replied: "I believe you will be the first to strike the 'old man' down."

How the Jap Admirals Started for the Battle.  
Samejima to Togo—On Feb. 6, while the Japanese squadron was leaving Sasebo, the commander, Vice-Admiral Samejima, of the battleship *Yamato*, Japan's largest ship, gave the order to start for the entrance of the harbor, and in parting sent the signal: "I pray for Vice-Admiral Togo's success." The Commander-in-Chief replied, "Togo to Uru—On Feb. 7, while the main squadron was patrolling at Mokpo with the fourth fleet, Vice-Admiral Togo sent the signal to Commander Uru of the fleet: 'I pray in advance for the success of your fleet.' The Commander replied: 'I thank you for your courtesy.' And a half dozen vessels of the fleet with all their crews celebrated the cheering.

Change to the Enemy's Fleet—At 11 o'clock in the morning, Feb. 7, Commander-in-Chief Togo had already made up his mind for action. After the deck was cleared for the start, he went to the gunnery table, where he and his subordinate officers looked at the Manchuria (captured Russian vessel) for the topic of conversation. They together raised the glasses of champagne as if for the last time, and started for the signal, "The Enemy's Fleet Appeared."

Japan, the "Child of India."  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: As was to be expected, the latest Indian papers received, which were published two days after the attack on Port Arthur by the Japanese, are full of expressions of exultation over the victory of the Asiatic Power. Japan is spoken of as "the child of India," and as the hope and life of "Asia." Articles of all kinds bearing on her military and naval power are extensively quoted and reprinted. The prevailing tendency lest any other Power should intervene to hamper Japan during the war or to deprive her of the fruits of victory, is manifested in many ways. They want Japan to be left to fight her battle out alone and to win.

The Anglo-Indian papers, on the other hand, are visibly uneasy at the turn of events, and at the increasing solicitude of India, the sympathy with and extraordinary amount of interest taken in Japan and its people in the dispute with Russia, and the fact that Indian princes make the Japanese tour just as they have made their visit to England. They describe them as signs of the times not to be neglected; and no more they are. F. NEW YORK, March 9.

## A Humane Suggestion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Will you not, for the sake of a tired and uncomplaining public, use your great influence to try to persuade Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Root to talk it all over together in private? I consider it better that the President should stand this mutual admiration much longer.

If they must have some one to listen, let me suggest that they call in Jacob Rits. A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO THE PUBLIC. NEW YORK, March 9.

## Christian Science Belief as to Sin and Disease Explained Officially.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: The very interesting account of Mrs. Anna J. Johnson's "Long Trip Guided by Faith," recently published in THE SUN, contains the following statement:

"Mrs. Johnson is not a Christian Scientist. She believes in the reality of sin and disease. She has seen too much of both in the thirty-three years of her work, she says, to believe otherwise. Moreover, she asks no fee for her services. This might be construed to imply that Christian Scientists do not believe in the reality of sin and disease in a literal sense, and as this is a very popular misapprehension, we offer the following explanation. No body of people recognizes the seeming existence of sin and disease more than do the Christian Scientists, and one of the best practical proofs of this is the fact that the Christian Scientists, as evidenced in the sick and sinful people of Adam, the most powerful work of as from their deduction that spirit and matter being opposed, the latter must be unreal, if the former is real."

The fourth paragraph of an sincerely imputed but spiritual bright as Mrs. Johnson appears to be, is an evidence of belief in the reality of sin and disease. To increase them to the extent present demands require work. While the present building activity prevails no one would grudge this, but having once been admitted to the ranks of the Christian Scientists, they are not to be discharged as long as they perform their duties faithfully. As periods of great building activity are followed by periods of depression, the city would find itself some day carrying a heavy burden of useless and expensive employees. By the remedy which I have proposed the city would at least one insuperable obstacle in the course of erection throughout the city, and a much higher standard of living than the salary paid by the Building Department at present attracts, and all without the expenditure of a dollar. AUSTIN GIBBINS. NEW YORK, March 7.

## No More Barrels of Matches.

From the Washington Post.  
Senator Root bawls the innovation recently introduced at that end of the Capitol in the purchase of matches. Almost since the time that friction matches were invented the Senate has been buying its supply in little round wooden boxes. Matches in these boxes have been years kept about the Capitol. When in Mr. Root's committee some one asked for matches, the Senator would remark: "Why, we have barrels of matches," and forthwith, at the utterance of the word, a round box would be produced, and the purchasing agent of the Senate has decided to buy matches in the usual paper boxes with which the general public is familiar. This is a commendable innovation, but it puts an end to "barrels of matches" in the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

## Women Are Sharp-Eyed Guests.

From the Liverpool Post.  
Will any truthful woman pretend that she ever stayed in the house of a man for a month, without being keenly conscious of gross mismanagement on the part of her hostess?

Foiled.  
The inventor was tearing his hair over his perpetual motion theory, when he was interrupted by a request that he should settle his gas bill. "That I am," he sighed. "I forgot that the man who invented meters forestalled me."

With a groan he burned the results of a lifetime's work. He drew the first rough sketch of a flying machine.

## LETTERS FROM AFRICAN FARMS.

Coming to School Children Here and Being Answered for Exercise.

Correspondence with the school children of South Africa in the interests of education is the latest wrinkle in school exercises under the Board of Education. Letters from the frontiers of African civilization have been received here addressed to the children in the schools and telling of the life of the writer. Dr. Maxwell has distributed these letters and answers have been composed and despatched. Dr. Maxwell thinks a great deal of this plan of interchanging letters, as he believes it will tend to interest the school children in the affairs of other nations and, hence, to broaden their ideas. The first communication came from J. T. Conroy Robson, head master of the district of Pretoria. It is addressed to the "Head Master" of our schools and reads:

DEAR SIR—I have suggested to the children of the schools in my district that they should correspond with the children in other parts of the world. They have taken the matter up enthusiastically and I have forwarded letters to the various English speaking countries. Will you help me by handing the enclosed letters to some English speaking school where you would be kind enough to reply? The writers are Boer children living on a farm about thirty miles from Pretoria, which is their nearest town.

Among the letters enclosed is one from a little girl, Catharina Potgieter, who writes from a school at Witspruit. Her letter comes by way of Bronkhorstspuit, South Africa. In spite of all the long names, she writes just as one would expect a small American girl to write under similar circumstances. Her handwriting also is similar to that of the children of our own schools, except that it is a little better than that of the majority of our scholars. Her letter reads:

MY DEAR LITTLE FELLOWS IN AMERICA: We are living on a beautiful farm, which is full of trees. I am at school on a farm, too. Our school is in a school house, but I hope that we will soon get a school room on the farm. About eighteen children from the neighboring farms, and two of my sisters and myself have an hour's walk every morning to school. Our nearest town is five hours' ride from us. A class will receive a letter to answer as an exercise in English composition, and the best answer will be sent to the headmaster, Maxwell to Head Master Robson, who will see that they reach the pupils in his district who first wrote. The letters will not all go to Witspruit, but to the nearest nearby every schoolhouse, or tent, in the Pretoria district.

## WORTH MORE THAN \$11,000,000.

No Schedule of Whitney Estate Filed—Son Gets Certificate of Office.

HEMPSTEAD, L. I., March 9.—Harry Payne Whitney, who was appointed sole executor of the estate of his father, W. C. Whitney, who died last week, has received his certificate of office. Contrary to general